

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 03594 231406Z

60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

----- 122299

R 230741Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2163

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 3594

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SV, NO, PFOR

SUBJ: US SVALBARD POLICY AND NANSEN DRIFT STATION

REF: (A) STATE 114779, (B) OSLO 2324

1. NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPER "AFTENPOSTEN" PUBLISHED JULY 16 ARTICLE DATED NEW YORK OUTLINGING BROAD PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF PROPOSED NANSEN DRIFT STATION PROJECT. ARTICLE INFORMATION CORRESPONDS GENERALLY WITH NAS NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL PAPER DATED JANUARY 14 WHICH GIVES NOTICE AND CALLS FOR COMMENT ON SCIENTIFIC OPPORTUNITIES. ARTICLE SAYS THAT NEXT AND FINAL STEP FOR PROJECT APPROVAL WILL BE NSF MEETING NEXT MONTH. (EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT NSF NATIONAL RESEARCH BOARD WILL CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROJECT IN AUGUST.) ARTICLE SAYS ALSO THAT PROJECT EQUIPMENT WILL INCLUDE TWO HELICOPTERS AND ONE SMALL AIRCRAFT; IT DOES NOT MENTION SVALBARD OR ANY STAGING AREA.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES IN ADDITION TO ITS SCIENTIFIC MERITS DRIFT STATION PROJECT WILL PROVIDE IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO STRENGTHEN OUR SCIENTIFIC PRESENCE ON SVALBARD, AS THE NORWEGIANS HAVE REQUESTED AND AS WE HAVE SAID WE WOULD SEEK TO DO.

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3. WE THEREFORE URGE DEPT TO PROVIDE US WITH STATUS REPORT ON THE PROJECT STATUS AS WELL AS KEEP US ABREAST OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENTS, BOTH FOR OUR OWN INFORMATION AND USE AND FOR THAT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHICH IS KEENLY INTERESTED IN THE PROJECT AND ITS HANDLING.

4. FOR SAME REASON WE URGE, AS WE KNOW PROJECT PLANNERS ARE CONSIDERING, THAT UNLESS THERE ARE OVERRIDING OBSTACLES, THAT SVALBARD BE DESIGNATED AS A PRIME CANDIDATE FOR THE LAND LOGISTICS STAGING AREA FOR THE PROJECT. WE SEE THIS AS ONE OF THE MOST VISIBLE AND NONCONTROVERSIAL MEANS WE HAVE AT HAND IN NEAR FUTURE TO ACCOMPLISH ONE OF OUR PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES REGARDING SVALBARD. ANDERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SV, PFOR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US SVALBARD POLICY AND NANSEN DRIFT STATION  
**TAGS:** NO  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC COPENHAGEN HELSINKI LONDON MOSCOW STOCKHOLM NATO  
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